

29 April 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : Angus MacLean Thuermer
Assistant to the Director
SUBJECT : Overseas Press Club - Late Notes

Mr. Beck of the club reconfirmed today that there would be no Q&A at your talk. He will make sure members understand this.

He knows that Jennifer is coming. A special room is being set aside at the Biltmore so she can change. He knows that Dennis will be substituting for me in giving you a hand.

If the Security people want to check out the area, they should direct themselves to the Biltmore banquet manager, Mr. Balzano.

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Concerning your talk: if you don't want to speak on the Church report, I think you can very well stand on the position you took with the newsmen outside the hearing room the other day. The Church report is a massive document, in any event, and not yet been released in its entirety. My inclination is not to spend much time on it. Your comments will just focus the news spotlight on this report again. The interest in the thing may very well have peaked by Monday.

I come down pretty heavily on the side of taking this occasion to give a "progress report" mentioning the appointment of your two new deputies.

You can very well play on the fact that you have as your strong right arm with the intelligence community a man who not only knows his way around the Pentagon and the intelligence community but is an ocean-going sea-dog who commanded one of our great battle units, the Sixth Fleet. This shows you have no Pentagon warrior but a real-life fighting man who has used intelligence on your team.

In the matter of Hank, you might want to stress that he has come up through the analytical side. But I think you should couple it with the admonition that you are not meaning to signal that intelligence collecting is going to be ignored just because your deputy has come up from the end-product side. The production of intelligence is of the essence but you don't want anyone to get the idea that secret collection is going to wither away. We've got to have it.

Angus MacLean Thuermer

CC: DCI Security